

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9/29/23 MILWAUKEE, WI REUNION

The business meeting of the September 2023 Reunion was called to order and opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Memorial Service began with the reading of names of each fellow shipmate that has passed away since the 2022 Reunion or that we became aware of their passing followed by the sound of the bell for each. Taps was played at the conclusion by trumpeter Dave Matteson.

The Financial Statement for period 1/1/22 to 12/31/2022 was disseminated for inspection as well as the Minutes of the 2022 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Statement and Minutes as is and after a vote the motion passed.

Due to the rising costs of printing, postage and other Association needs, and after a discussion on same, a motion to raise the dues from \$15.00 per year to \$25.00 per year was made. A vote on the motion was had and the motion passed.

A discussion was had relative to limiting future reunions to four days with one banquet. It was felt that it would be more economical for some people to stay less time. A Motion was made to limit the reunion to four days and have only one banquet and after a vote the motion passed.

Roger and Suzanne Borne at this time elected to withdraw the offer of last year to host a reunion in Buffalo-Niagara for 2025. A motion was made to withdraw Buffalo-Niagara, seconded and after a vote the motion passed.

Arla and Don Deycous offered to explore the possibility and costs associated with hosting a reunion for 2025 in Oklahoma City, OK. They will explore this option and propose something at the 2024 reunion.

We were approached by a member of the USS Oriskany relating to the feasibility of their joining our reunions in the future. After a discussion weighing the pros and cons of such an endeavor, it was decided that we could try this for a few years and see how it would work out. The BHR would plan and host one year and the Oriskany would do the same for the following year. If it doesn't work out, we'd each go our separate ways. A motion was made and seconded to allow the USS Oriskany to participate in our reunions and us in theirs and after a vote the motion passed. (**NOTE: After the reunion in a surprise turn of events, the Oriskany informed us that their organization had elected not to join our reunions. They wanted, however, to keep the possibility alive for revisiting the subject for some time in the future.)

Due to escalating costs and the money we lose every year on the Reunion Tee Shirts, it was suggested that we will no longer have reunion tees. Ginnie Shea and Bart will come up with

some sort of generic design and have the tee shirts available for order online with a company of their choosing. They will make available to us the company and cost and if you want a tee shirt you can go online and order one. The same will be true with the ball caps. When our supply of caps is depleted, you can go online to order a cap. There are numerous companies that provide them with all sorts of designs.

Don Deycous only wanted to serve a one-year term as President, so nominations were open at this time for this position. A motion was made to nominate Eugene Kraklow, Jr., it was seconded and after a vote Eugene was elected as our President to serve a three-year term from 2023 to 2026.

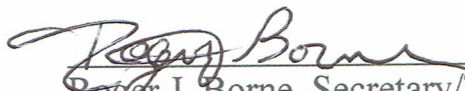
Next, the Secretary/Treasurer position was up for election. A motion was made to nominate Roger Borne for this position, it was seconded and after a vote Roger Borne was elected as Secretary/Treasurer to serve a three-year term from 2023 to 2026.

We received a request from several Association members to publish the names, division/rank and years served of all current members to our website. Seeing no obvious violation of the HIPPA laws, it was determined that the names would be published on our website, ussbhrshipmates.org, under the Miscellaneous Information tab. We will keep this current to the best of our ability and update the list several times a year. If anyone is interested, there is another website on the internet called hullnumber.com. If you want to publish your information on that site, just pull it up and follow the online prompts.

One of our members, Jay Sanders, has been diagnosed with Mesothelioma. We have been contacted by an investigator for the law firm representing Jay, and, with his permission, are revealing this information to you with the request that anyone knowing Jay, remember working with Jay or has any information whatsoever that would be relevant to his particular condition, contact the investigator in order to share same with him. Jay is from Baytown, TX, he served aboard the USS BHR from 1961 to 1964 and was assigned to the E-B Division and was classified as an MM3. The investigator that you can contact with any information is Stephen Dunn, with the Gold Law Firm, and his phone number is 415-592-5829 or you may email Mr. Dunn at sdunn@rgoldlegal.com.

There being no further business to come before the Association, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded and voted on to close.

Submitted By:


Roger J. Borne, Secretary/Treasurer
USS Bon Homme Richard Shipmates Assn.
Date: October 30, 2023

NOTE: Following the business meeting, a zoom presentation was conducted by Sharon Kraklow featuring a presentation by Melissa Ryan, Vice President of the Global Foundation for Ocean Exploration. Melissa has led fourteen expeditions to search for the Bon Homme Richard, flagship of John Paul Jones. The presentation was extremely interesting as well as informative. Ron Schuster, one of our Association Members, was instrumental in setting this presentation in motion. If you want to know more about this exploration or have any questions, you can contact Melissa Ryan by email at melissa.oceantechnology@gmail.com